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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5656
INFO RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN 1673
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RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 0434
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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KPKO](#) [SO](#) [FR](#)
SUBJECT: SOMALIA: FRANCE INTENDS TO CONTRIBUTE TO SSR

REF: A. STATE 17205 (NOTAL)
[1](#)B. DJIBOUTI 150

Classified By: Deputy Political Counselor William Jordan, 1.4 (b/d).

(C) MFA AF DAS-equivalent Helene Le Gal said on February 27 that France would contribute to Security Sector Reform (SSR) in Somalia (ref A), likely through a training program to take place in Djibouti. She stressed, however, that French thinking was at a very early stage and she could therefore offer no specifics. She noted that FM Kouchner had discussed Somali security during his recent visit to Djibouti (ref B, paras 7-9), with the Djiboutians indicating their willingness to support SSR for Somalia, including cooperation with whatever program the French might undertake. Le Gal said that she had also discussed assisting Somali SSR at the P-3 Somalia meeting in London on February 25, where she said she also made clear that French thinking was at a very preliminary stage and that any French contribution would likely be relatively modest. Le Gal said that the GOF was well aware of the USG's keen interest in this issue, as set forth ref A; France shared this concern and would do what it could, but she repeated that France's contribution would likely not be a large-scale one.

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